### A Note from the President:

Who can forget my riveting message a few months back that suggested we were already full steam ahead on planning summer events. Well news flash, they are here! All kidding aside, this time of year can be challenging, and extremely rewarding for 4-H Educators. We find ourselves getting worn down, dinged, bruised, tired, and sometimes just fed up! At times, it’s hard to see the bigger picture through each trip, event, and conference. What is the bigger picture? Why do we put ourselves through this year after year? We do it for the kids! As the 4-H mission states “4-H connects youth to hands-on learning opportunities that help them grow into competent, caring contributing members of society”. I challenge you all to “keep your eye on the prize” this summer. There is nothing more rewarding to me (even after 18 years) then to see a youth leave an event, a trip, or program with a wide eyed smile, packed with excitement, something learned, or a new vision of their future. Take time to soak up the amazing work that you are doing! Enjoy each program as it unfolds, and remember that we are all shaping the future leaders of tomorrow. Have a great summer everyone, and don’t forget to soak up those great moments!

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### Have you met?

**Bonnie Benton,** Niagara County

**Why did you join NYSACCE4-HE?** For the opportunity to meet and network with other 4-H educators across NYS.  
**CCE?** I came onboard to 4-H in November of 2013 so I’m fairly new to the 4-H world. I’ve been with Niagara County for 18 years starting out as an administrative assistant and took the position of nutrition educator with the EFNEP and ESNY program. I jumped at the chance to be a 4-H educator with a focus on the environmental and horticulture programming. I’m excited to work with our Jr. Gardeners and after-school programs.

**Hobbies?** Gardening, especially growing greens and heirloom tomatoes. I’m excited to be a part of our aquaponics program here at our greenhouse. I also love to ice-skate, cross-country ski and read.

**Vacation?** I love to be outside and love the Adirondacks, my ideal vacation is backpacking!

**Dream?** Time-travel!

**Contact?** bb14@cornell.edu or CCE Niagara (716) 433-8839 x236

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### Photo of the Month!

Leland Bunting poses with Rensselaer County 4-H teens in front of the White House during Wonders of Washington in February.  
Photo “borrowed” from the Rensselaer County 4-H Facebook page.

Please feel free to send photos to for use as “photo of the month” to Jessica Spence at jls233@cornell.edu!

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### Upcoming Conferences

The NAE4-HE Conference registration is open and information can be found at [http://www.nae4ha.com/2015-annual-conference](http://www.nae4ha.com/2015-annual-conference)

Save the Date:  
The New York State Association of Cornell Cooperative Extension 4-H Educators (NYSACCE4-HE) Conference October 14, 15 and 16, 2015 at the Ramada Inn in Ithaca, NY  
Don’t miss it the conference of the generations!  
Look for Early Bird registration to come out early July. Early bird registration will be until August 15th!  
Our Keynote is Fannie Glover and will provide a workshop around the theme of “4-H. Many Generations for One Thriving Future.”

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### Quote of the Month:

“The price of success is hard work, dedication to the job at hand, and the determination that whether we win or lose, we have applied the best of ourselves to the task at hand.”  
Vince Lombardi